

Message Text

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12

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00

INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SP-02 STR-04 TRSE-00 CIEP-01

FRB-03 OMB-01 DODE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 /063 W

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P R 090330Z OCT 76

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1362

USDA FAS

INFO AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PANAMA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

AMEMBASSY QUITO

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, RP

SUBJECT: SUGAR EXPORTERS TO SET MINIMUM PRICE

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REF: SAN JOSE 47887

1. ACCORDING TO ARTICLE CARRIED IN MANILA MORNING NEWS-PAPERS OCTOBER 8, VICE PRESIDENT NICOLAS BARLETA OF PANAMA AND FINANCE MINISTER PROFIRIO MORERO OF COSTA RICA (WHO ARE IN MANILA FOR THE IMF/IBRD MEETINGS) CONVEYED TO PRESIDENT MARCOS DESIRE OF THEIR RESPECTIVE PRESIDENTS TO ENTER INTO CONSULTATIONS WITH AIM OF PROTECTING SUGAR INDUSTRY IN EXPORTING COUNTRIES. THE LATIN AMERICAN OFFICIALS EXPRESSED FEAR THAT PRICE OF SUGAR IN THE WORLD MARKET WAS BEING MANIPULATED TO THE DETRIMENT OF SUGAR PRODUCING NATIONS. PRESIDENT MARCOS REPORTEDLY REPLIED THAT GOP WOULD BE PLEASED TO PARTICIPATE IN AN EFFORT TO STABILIZE PRICE OF SUGAR.

2. COMMENT: AFTER RECEIVING REFTEL, EMBASSY OFFICER INFORMALLY RAISED QUESTION OF LATIN AMERICAN SUGAR PRODUCERS' EFFORTS TO SET MINIMUM PRICE WITH VICE PRESIDENT OF PHILIPPINE NATIONAL BANK (PNB) RESPONSIBLE FOR SUGAR INVESTMENTS. PNB VICE PRESIDENT WAS NOT AWARE OF LATIN AMERICAN INITIATIVE AND SHOWED NO ENTHUSIASM FOR PROPOSAL, POINTING OUT DIFFICULTY OF SETTING PRODUCERS' QUOTAS OR ESTABLISHING SOME OTHER MECHANISM WHICH WOULD PERMIT MAINTENANCE OF MINIMUM PRICE IN FACE OF PRESENT SUGAR SURPLUS. DECISION AS TO STYLE AND CONTENT OF GOP FOLLOW-UP (IF ANY) WILL, HOWEVER, REST WITH MARCOS, NOT WITH PHILIPPINE SUGAR "ESTABLISHMENT".
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Message Attributes

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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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